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*Admitted only in Maryland
*Admitted only in Virginia
*Practice Limited to
Federal Agencies

July 25, 2006

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
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Art Unit 1652

Attn: Mail Stop Amendment

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 10/661,819; Filed: September 15, 2003
For: **Thermostable Reverse Transcriptases and Uses Thereof**
Inventors: SMITH *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.5040003/RWE/JKM

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038) in the amount of \$2160.00 to cover Extension of time within the fifth month;
2. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(5);
3. Petition for Extension of Time to Respond to Office Action Mailed January 25, 2006; and
4. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
July 25, 2006
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Jeffrey K. Mills
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 56,413

JKM/tdd
Enclosures

561282_1.DOC



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
SMITH *et al.*

Appl. No. 10/661,819

Filed: September 15, 2003

For: **THERMOSTABLE REVERSE
TRANSCRIPTASE AND USES
THEREOF**

Confirmation No.: 7510

Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: Hutson, Richard G.

Atty. Docket: 0942.5040003/RWE/JKM

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME
TO RESPOND TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED JANUARY 25, 2006**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

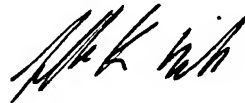
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 (a), Applicants have filed herewith a petition for an extension of time of 5 months, up to and including July 25, 2006. The \$2,160.00, 5-month extension fee (large entity) is provided for in the accompanying credit card form.

The reason for this Petition is to provide co-pendency between the present application and a continuation application filed this same day.

If the payment is inadvertently omitted, or if the payment is insufficient, or should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.18 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, or should an overpayment be included herein, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct or credit said fees from or to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.K. Mills', is written over the printed name.

Jeffrey K. Mills
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 56,413

Date: July 25, 2006

IVGN EOT pleading.DOC